

R E M A R K S

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

THE CLAIMS

Independent claims 1 and 11 have been amended only to make some minor grammatical improvements and to correct some minor antecedent basis problems. In particular, claims 1 and 11 have been amended to clarify that the gray level designation current is supplied through a signal line to a respective one of the pixel circuits.

No new matter has been added, and it is respectfully requested that the amendments to the claims be approved and entered.

It is respectfully submitted, moreover, that the amendments to the claims are not related to patentability, and do not narrow the scope of the claims either literally or under the doctrine of equivalents.

THE PRIOR ART REJECTION

Claims 1-16 were rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by USP 6,734,636 ("Sanford et al"). This rejection, however, is respectfully traversed.

According to the present invention as recited in independent claims 1 and 11, a first voltage is output to a respective pixel circuit to supply a gray level designation current having a current value larger than that of a driving current through a signal line to the pixel circuit during a selection period and to store, in the pixel circuit, a luminance gray level of the light-emitting element corresponding to the current value of the gray level designation current. In addition, as recited in claims 1 and 11, a second voltage having a potential different from that of the first voltage is output to the pixel circuit during a nonselection period to modulate the driving current output from the pixel circuit based on the luminance gray level stored in the pixel circuit.

Sanford et al, on the other hand, discloses at column 7, lines 1-20 a technique utilizing a high writing current when setting a state of a pixel circuit (corresponding to the selection period of the present invention), and shortening the viewing time of the pixel circuit's data. In Sanford et al, in order to display data in a multi-level gray scale such as an 8-bit gray scale, the difference between a current flowing in the OLED in the darkest gray scale and the current flowing in the OLED in the brightest gray scale must be a value of two digits. Since it takes time for the lower gray level currents to charge or discharge the capacitance of a data line when setting a state,

in a high-resolution display of a multi-level gray scale, sufficient writing cannot be carried out. To solve this problem, the data line current is increased and the viewing time is shortened, thereby making the period of setting a state relatively long and charging or discharging the capacitance of a data line during the setting period. In particular, the Vss1 (refer to column 6, lines 21-24) applied to the viewing time is adjusted to shorten the viewing time (as the brightness per unit time must be increased inevitably, the voltage is made lower so that a large current flows in the OLED).

Accordingly, as described above, Sanford et al discloses increasing a data line current when setting a state. It is respectfully submitted, however, that Sanford et al does not disclose, teach or suggest making the current flowing when setting a state (corresponding to the selection period of the present invention) larger than a current following when viewing a state (corresponding to the driving current of the present invention). If anything, as the current when setting a state is larger than a current when viewing a state in Sanford et al, this reference is contrary to the teachings of the claimed present invention.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present invention as recited in independent claims 1 and 11, and each of claims 2-10 and 12-16 respectively depending therefrom,

clearly patentably distinguishes over Sanford et al, taken singly or in combination with any of the other prior art references of record, under 35 USC 102 as well as under 35 USC 103.

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Entry of this Amendment, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,

/Douglas Holtz/

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